



General Assembly

February Session, 2016

Raised Bill No. 352

LCO No. 2432



Referred to Committee on PUBLIC HEALTH

Introduced by:
(PH)

AN ACT CONCERNING PRESCRIPTIONS FOR AND THE DISPENSING OF OPIOID ANTAGONISTS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) A prescribing
2 practitioner, as defined in section 20-14c of the general statutes, who is
3 authorized to prescribe an opioid antagonist may, by standing order
4 issued to a pharmacist licensed under part II of chapter 400j, prescribe
5 an opioid antagonist that is (1) administered in a nasal spray form, (2)
6 approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration, and (3)
7 dispensed by the pharmacist to any person at risk of experiencing an
8 opioid-related overdose or to a family member, friend or other person
9 in a position to assist a person at risk of experiencing an opioid-related
10 overdose. Any such prescription shall be regarded as being issued for
11 a legitimate medical purpose in the usual course of the prescribing
12 practitioner's professional practice. For purposes of this section and
13 section 20-633c, as amended by this act, "standing order" means a
14 nonpatient specific prescription for an opioid antagonist that is
15 administered in a nasal spray form and approved by the federal Food
16 and Drug Administration.

17 (b) A pharmacist who agrees to accept a standing order issued
18 under subsection (a) of this section and dispenses an opioid antagonist
19 in accordance with the provisions of said subsection shall be deemed
20 not to have violated any standard of care for a pharmacist.

21 Sec. 2. Section 20-633c of the 2016 supplement to the general statutes
22 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
23 *from passage*):

24 (a) (1) A person who is licensed as a pharmacist under part II of this
25 chapter and is certified in accordance with subsection (b) of this section
26 may prescribe, in good faith, an opioid antagonist, as defined in
27 section 17a-714a. Such pharmacist shall [(1)] (A) provide appropriate
28 training regarding the administration of such opioid antagonist to the
29 person to whom the opioid antagonist is dispensed, and [(2)] (B)
30 maintain a record of such dispensing and the training required
31 pursuant to this chapter.

32 (2) A person who is licensed as a pharmacist under part II of this
33 chapter may dispense, in good faith, an opioid antagonist, as defined
34 in section 17a-714a, that is administered in a nasal spray form,
35 pursuant to a standing order issued under section 1 of this act.

36 (b) A pharmacist may only prescribe an opioid antagonist pursuant
37 to this section if the pharmacist has been trained and certified by a
38 program approved by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection.

39 (c) A pharmacist who prescribes or dispenses an opioid antagonist
40 in compliance with this section shall be deemed not to have violated
41 any standard of care for a pharmacist.

42 (d) The provisions of subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of this section
43 shall apply only to a pharmacist certified in accordance with
44 subsection (b) of this section. No pharmacist may delegate or direct
45 any other person to (1) prescribe an opioid antagonist, or (2) train any
46 person in the administration of such opioid antagonist pursuant to the

47 provisions of subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of this section.

48 (e) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection may adopt
49 regulations, in accordance with chapter 54, to implement the
50 provisions of this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	20-633c

Statement of Purpose:

To permit prescribing practitioners to issue a standing order to pharmacists to permit them to dispense an opioid antagonist in a nasal form to a person without a patient-specific prescription.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]